

President.—The three Bills fixed for the third reading will have precedence over the non-official business of the day.

The Bill to amend the Cochin Code of Criminal Procedure.

Mr. K. Achyuta Menon.—I beg to move that the Bill to amend the Cochin Code of Criminal Procedure be taken up and passed by the House.

Mr. T. K. Krishna Menon.—I second it.

(The motion was put and carried.)

The Bill to amend the Cochin Chief Court Regulation.

Mr. K. Achyuta Menon.—Sir, I beg to move that the Bill to amend the Cochin Chief Court Regulation as amended be taken up and passed.

Mr. T. K. Krishna Menon.—I second it.

(The motion was carried.)

The Bill to amend the Cochin Municipal Regulation.

Mr. K. Achyuta Menon.—I beg to move that the Bill to amend the Cochin Municipal Regulation be taken up and passed.

Mr. T. K. Krishna Menon.—I second it.

(The motion that the Bill to amend the Cochin Municipal Regulation be passed by this House was carried.)

Cochin Legislative Council Member's Exemption Bill.

President.—The next item of business is Mr. Kunjunni Raja's Bill.

Mr. C. A. Kunjunni Raja.—I beg to introduce the 'Cochin Legislative Council Member's Exemption Bill.'

Mr. T. A. Ramachandra Ayyar.—I second it.

Mr. C. A. Kunjunni Raja.—In the objects and reasons I have explained the reasons for introducing this Bill. Freedom of speech and freedom from arrest are two of the essential requisites for the conduct of self-governing institutions. The Bill as originally drafted by me included a section giving freedom of speech to the Members. That section is to the effect that 'no person shall be liable to any Proceedings in any court in the State by reason of his speech or vote in the Cochin Legislative Council, or by reason of anything contained in any official report of the Proceedings of the Council. The Secretary to the Council raised objection on the ground that that Bill appeared objectionable under section 11(n) and 18 of the Council Regulation read with Rules 8 (c), 25 (4) and 35 (c), to which an exhaustive reply was sent by me, and by the ruling of the President, which does not seem to be satisfactory to me, that section, after a good deal of correspondence between the Secretary to the Council and myself, had to be dropped. The President's ruling that the section infringes upon the provisions of the Rules of the Legislative Council is final, and since we have to bow to that ruling, that section was dropped. Subsequently the Bill